FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE   **CONTACT:** Marc Chery
Tuesday, September 11, 2012   619-236-5817

SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY MARKS CONSTITUTION AND CITIZENSHIP DAY
Ongoing Library Civic Programs Foster Public Conversation about the Constitution

SAN DIEGO – The San Diego Public Library will mark Constitution Day with a *September 17 Is Constitution Day* live reading and performance of the U.S. Constitution on Monday, September 17 at 6:30 p.m. in the Wangenheim Rare Book Room of Central Library located at 820 E Street in downtown San Diego, featuring performing artists Reg E. Gaines and Deloris Fisher and area university scholars Pat Washington and Isidro Ortiz. Audiences are invited to attend and share their own commentary regarding the meaning of the Constitution in the lives of Americans. This program is presented in conjunction with the months long library project, *Searching for Democracy: A Public Conversation about the Constitution* sponsored by the California Council for the Humanities.

Constitution Day is an American federal observance that recognizes the adoption of the United States Constitution and those who have become U.S. citizens. It is observed on September 17, the day the U.S. Constitutional Convention signed the Constitution in 1787.

Searching for Democracy brings together people from diverse backgrounds to attend and discuss the Constitution at programs including lectures, book discussions, films, digital stories, and performance. Young and old, rich and poor, new citizens and long-term residents will have the opportunity to openly explore the understanding of our American heritage and citizenry. The endeavor will also afford individual library patrons a greater understanding of the Library's vast collection of Constitution related titles and digital resources.

Learn about the Constitution series and other events at the San Diego Public Library's Central Library and 35 branches, find links to numerous additional resources, or search for materials in the Library's catalog online at www.sandiegolibrary.gov.

Inspiring lifelong learning through connections to knowledge and each other
# # #